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18 March 1953

1. We are trying to check the plausibility of the story he has given regarding his past activities.

2. He states that as a member of the Gestapo he was assigned Gestapo Branch Office in Pilsen in March 1939 and remained there until December 1939. He says he was confined to office duty only due to failing health. He was interned by the Americans from June 1945 until February 1947 when he was extradited to Czechoslovakia allegedly for having taken an active part in mass arrests of hostages which was carried out in Pilsen on 1 September 1939. He states that during his trial he was able to prove that his duties consisted only of keeping index files, and that he did not engage either in locating the arrestees nor in the executive measures which followed the arrests. He states that as a result of this proof he was sentenced only to 5 years forced labor. "On 2 May 1947 the People's Court of Pilsen sentenced me to this term after having found, according to para 2 of the Law of Retribution, that I was a member of the National Socialist Organization. The sentence read - that I had unlawfully entered the country and that I had thereby endangered the life of the Republic."

3. He states that he was unable to obtain a copy of the indictment and sentence, and that in 1950, on his plea to be given credit for the period of his internment by the Americans, he was released. He adds that on 7 July 1950 he was escorted to the border and expelled to Bavaria. At that time he was in very poor health.

4. We would very much appreciate having the opinion of persons familiar with prison conditions and penal practices in Czechoslovakia in 1950 as to whether this story is plausible. In other words are the Czech authorities known to have made similar concessions in other similar cases; if no other similar cases have been heard of, is this story so unlikely as to be in all probability a fabrication.

Discussed above with [] who stated above very plausible. Stated that all persons who were formerly members of Gestapo were automatically eligible for arrest and that checks usually were let off with either suspended sentences or from 1 to 10 yrs. Has stated many were expelled from []

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